



GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

MEETING AGENDA

June 21, 2019

9:30am-11:30am

State House, Governor & Council Chambers
Concord, New Hampshire

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Patrick Tufts (*5 minutes*)
2. Approval of Minutes (Attached) (Vote) (*5 minutes*)
3. DHHS Commissioner's Update (*15 minutes*)
4. Executive Director's Update – Annette Escalante (*15 minutes*)
 - Financial Dashboard SFY19/20 (Attached)
5. Cost Effectiveness Update (Vote) – Susan Drown (*15 minutes*)
6. Annual Report Update – Amy Daniels, Center for Excellence (*10 minutes*)
7. Recovery Task Force Presentation- Keith Howard (15 minutes)
 - Recommendations from the Task Force (Attached)
8. Task Force Updates (*25 minutes*)
 - Prevention
 - Treatment
 - Joint Military
 - Healthcare
 - Perinatal Exposure
 - Data
 - Opioid (Attached) (Vote)
9. Other Business (*5 minutes*)
10. Public Comment (*10 minutes*)

Next Meeting:

August 23, 2019

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

State House, Governor & Council Chambers
Concord, New Hampshire

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

June 21, 2019

Governor & Council Chambers

CONCORD, NH

MINUTES

Members Present:

Steve Ahnen, *NH Hospital Association*
Kara Buxton, *Division of Children, Youth and Families*
Scott Dunn, *NH Liquor Commission Division of Enforcement*
Frank Edelblut, *NH Department of Education*
Monica Edgar, *Treatment Professional*
Annette Escalante, *Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services*
Helen Hanks, *NH Department of Corrections*
William Hatch, *NH House of Representatives*
Keith Howard, *Recovery Representative*
Tim Lena, *Prevention Professional*
Chuck Lloyd, *Community College System of NH*
Jeff Meyers, *NH Department of Health & Human Services*
David Mikolaities, *NH National Guard*
Tina Nadeau, *NH Courts*
Robert Quinn, *NH Department of Safety*
Tym Rourke, *NH Charitable Foundation*
Seddon Savage, *NH Medical Society*
Stephanie Savard, *Treatment Professional*
Patrick Tufts, *Granite United Way*
David Watters, *NH Senate*

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Patrick Tufts opened the meeting by welcoming the Commission members and the public.

2. Approval of Minutes

There was a motion by Steven Ahnen to approve the minutes from March 22, 2019. The motion was seconded by Chuck Lloyd. The minutes were approved with all in favor.

3. Executive Director's Update

Patrick made an adjustment to the agenda to allow for more time for Commissioner Meyers to arrive. He asked Annette to provide the Executive Director's update. Annette presented the financial dashboard to the group, outlining what is currently in contracts and obligations to date stating there is currently \$3M unspent in FY2020. She noted that due to the Department of Safety locating other funding for their Naloxone training there would be an increase in available funds on the dashboard presented in August. Stephanie Savard asked if there would be a more methodical approach to discussing the spend down of these funds, noting a full budget discussion in regard to the strategic plan as opposed to Task Force by Task Force requests. Patrick responded by saying this concept is on the agenda for the Task Force Chairs Meeting immediately following the current meeting. He noted that he has prepared a draft process for requesting funding from the Commission to present to the Task Force Chairs for their feedback. Helen Hanks added that she would like geography and special populations to also be considered as part of that conversation to ensure funds are being directed toward specific pockets of the State with fewer resources. Tym Rourke asked a clarifying question asking if the \$2.1M of funding to spend in 2019 is unencumbered or if it includes anything in process. Annette responded that it does not include \$23,000 in process for the Department of Education.

4. NH DHHS Commissioner's Update

Commissioner Meyers thanked Patrick and greeted the members of the Commission. He provided a brief update on the State Opioid Response Grant noting that over all the project is going well. He stated that they are currently focused on helping people to enter the Doorway system from where they live, instead of traveling to Manchester and Nashua. He noted that due to the awareness of the Safe Station Program, many individuals still are utilizing those entry points as opposed to their local Doorway. Commissioner Meyers also stated that the NHCF and UNH are providing technical assistance to the hubs. He went on to say that opioids are still the top reason individuals are

looking for resources, but that alcohol and methamphetamine are also significant. He noted that they are actively working on how to ensure treatment for individuals seeking treatment for substances other than opioids since the SOR funding is restricted to a primary or secondary diagnosis of Opioid Use Disorder.

5. Cost Effectiveness Update – Susan Drown, Director, Quality Assurance and Improvement, NH DHHS

Susan Drown, opened by thanking the Commission. She noted that HB 1626 requires the Governor's Commission on Alcohol and & Other Drugs in conjunction with the Commissioner of DHHS to make an annual report relative to the cost effectiveness and outcomes of programs funded in whole or in part by the Governor's Commission. She went on to say that each annual report shall provide an evaluation of 4 programs, alternating between treatment and prevention, the programs selected shall be chosen from among the 10 highest dollar value programs in that category based on expenditures and that no law enforcement programs shall be selected. She stated that to date the Department has contracted with JSI to create the program inventory, conduct cost effectiveness analysis, and complete the annual report, there has been further consultation, training and technical assistance with Pew MacArthur Results First Initiative staff, they submitted the substance use Program Inventory and provided an overview of cost effectiveness project provided to the Data and Evaluation Task Force.

Susan added that today she is looking for approval to the following items: the use of ASAM levels of care to identify programs and that the first cost effectiveness report focus on High Intensity Residential Treatment (HIRT) Services (HIRT Services is the only treatment program type in which the cost for each of the 5 funded programs are among the 10 highest expenditures HIRT programs serve the highest number of clients by ASAM level of care, HIRT programs serve clients with the highest level of substance use disorder acuity).

Tim Lena asked a clarifying question to simplify the request to the Commission. Susan responded by saying she needs their approval of the recommendation to review all five high intensity programs, even though the mandate is only four programs. Senator Watters asked if there was an impact to services based on the work associated to the report on the providers of these programs. Susan replied that they hope to keep the impact small and that some of the reporting can be done via email. Senator Watters followed up stating that if it were to interfere and have costs associated to the report, that the Commission should explore supplanting those funds. Susan stated that they do not anticipate that would be necessary, that it is mostly staff time within JSI and that is already contracted for. Seddon Savage asked if they would be considering the social context of addiction and how that can impact program effectiveness. Susan responded that yes, they do consider that. Stephanie Savard asked if the team could ask providers to track how much time and effort was required of them to ensure it was not burdensome and provide that information back to the Commission. Commissioner Meyers agreed to that request.

Tym Rouke asked what the working definition of "cost effectiveness" is based on preparing for the report. Susan noted that the legislation dictates that the Department bases that on the outcomes of the participants assigned by the contracts. Commissioner Meyers noted that it can be difficult to measure and that there are plans to also provide a performance evaluation within the department for these programs to promote transparency. Patrick requested an update in four to five months. Susan agreed that an update would be provided at the October meeting. There was a motion by Tim Lena to approve the recommendations. The motion was seconded by Senator Watters. The motion was approved with all in favor.

6. Annual Report Update – Amy Daniels, Center for Excellence

Amy reminded the Commission Members that the Commission's Annual Report is due to the State on October 1st. She reminded the group that this report was not done last year due to the strategic planning process noting that the report for SFY 2019 will be structured around the action plan. She stated that she will send a template to department heads and Task Force chairs to complete based on their progress to date. She also stated that there is a requirement to report financials on any alcohol/drug related spending. She reminded the group that in order to maintain the timeline for completion the templates need to be returned to her and her staff by the end of August. They will compile the report in September for submission on October 1, 2019. return by end of august.

7. Recovery Task Force Recommendations

Patrick opened by stating that due to the robust conversation at the last meeting about investments in the Recovery sector, that he asked Keith to lead the Task Force in developing recommendation on current gaps in services and funding. Patrick asked Keith to present the recommendations to the Commission. Keith opened by stating that he was addressing the group as the Chair of the Recovery Task Force and

also representing all recovery centers, residences and supportive services throughout the State, as well as people in long term recovery and people who need recovery. He went on to say that he is a person in long term recovery and received access to services through the Manchester Veteran's Association. He noted that he was not made to wait and was immediately put in ambulance to Vermont, detoxed and introduced to a recovery program that he still utilizes.

He noted that Patrick had recommended a certain dollar amount for the request, but that the ask is for more because of the deep need. He stated that lives are being changed and folks are remaining in recovery due to these types of programs. He noted that a good way to support cost effectiveness in the treatment sector is through recovery supports. He explained a component of the proposal which is to ensure quality of Recovery Housing by establishing a certification process. He went on to say that the National Alliance of Recovery Residences (NARR) is the national certifying body for recovery housing and that New Hampshire should have similar statewide body for the same purpose in this state. Furthermore, once houses are certified, promote recovery housing availability through scholarships. These would be to folks new in their recovery, exiting incarceration or treatment to provide rent assistance for two weeks. Seddon Savage asked a clarifying question about the utilization of recovery coaching within jails. Keith noted that programming was not included in this request, but it is a good recommendation. Senator Watters thanked Keith for sharing his story and for his leadership. Senator Watters asked if there is a need for state authority to provide the certifications for the housing. Keith replied that the model is closer to that of a trade association. Tym Rouke stated that there are a number of legislative conversations on this topic with ideas of self-regulation with some state participation. Annette Escalante asked Lindy Keller from BDAS to comment on this. Lindy noted that legislation passed to instruct the Department to list the recovery housing available in the state. She went on to say, this does not provide any requirements on the quality of that housing, that it was a simple registry of what is available.

Commissioner Meyers asked how the budget was developed for the housing program and how many individuals they expected the \$375,000 would support. Keith explained that \$275,000 would be toward establishing the Certification Program and \$100,000 would be available for scholarships to individuals to cover two weeks of rent, approximately \$200-\$300 per week, totaling around 150 people. He also noted this would not include expenses for food. Senator Watters noted that he is interested in hearing more about the connection to individuals leaving incarceration. Keith replied that at Hope for NH Recovery, they are regularly contacted by State prisons and local jails informing them that people are getting out and that they will need recovery supports. Commissioner Hanks noted that she has been a longtime advocate for the idea that release from corrections is a critical time in someone's recovery. She went on to say that \$100,000 investment in scholarships is not enough. She also asked if there was current funding for this sort of program through DHHS. Keith replied that BDAS can look to see if there is any duplication before programming goes into place. Tim Lena asked if the \$275,000 would cover the costs to get the certification process up and running or if it would provide ongoing support. Keith noted that this would be considered starter funds and the program would not require the full level of funding next year. He went on to say at the amount does include funding for space and for personnel to monitor the certifications. Representative Hatch asked a clarifying question, that there would be two types of recovery housing, certified and uncertified under this proposal. Keith replied that yes, but that all recovery housing would be encouraged to obtain certification. Chief Justice Tina Nadeau asked how the two-week figure was decided on instead of a more common amount like 30 days. Keith replied that is the practice in most peoples' experience. Tym Rouke asked Commissioner Meyers to speak to if he knew about any current efforts that this work would duplicate. Commissioner Meyers said the only current funding is \$2.5M tied to respite housing while folks are waiting for treatment access.

Seddon Savage noted that the strategy on the second page of "increase engagement of health care providers in supporting patient recovery" does not match the description of "Training 100 people in recovery to use ear acupuncture (Acudetox) in recovery centers around the state. Training should be

conducted by a certified NADA trainer.” Keith agreed that the strategy is a mismatch for the description provided.

Commissioner Hanks stated that there are 6,000 people in the state on probation/parole and some of them are potentially being taken advantage of through recovery housing providers. She noted that through the certification process, there should be an assurance that people providing recovery housing are not motivated by money but that they are interested in bettering peoples’ lives. Steve Ahnen requesting that a breakdown of the \$1.4M request for recovery centers be broken out to clarify how much would be for new centers and the amount that would go toward supporting existing centers. Keith replied that this is a general proposal but that he estimates, \$500,000 would go toward new construction in Plymouth, Jaffrey and Hampton, while the remainder would fund existing RCOs.

Patrick made a recommendation for the Commission to invest \$200,000 in year one, and \$175,000 in year two to create the certification body in partnership with NHCORR. He also recommended an investment of \$500,000 per year for two years to expand and support RCOs. Senator Watters supported Patrick’s recommendation by making it a formal motion. Commissioner Quinn noted to the group that special attention should be paid to local inspection requirements and fire code within the certification program. Tym Rouke noted concern the motion stating that the Commission has funds that are ready to be utilized. He suggested adding an up to amount that can be lessened if other funding for the project comes though. He noted that often times, other funding does not pan out. He stated that with the current business model of RCOs, he is not comfortable with a motion containing a lesser amount in year two. He noted the Commission should have the recovery community’s back and make a consistent commitment. Chief Justice Nadeau noted that drug court clients often lack housing and recovery support and that the biggest is gap for people who have already completed a drug court program.

Tim Lena asked what the process would be for the RCOs to apply for this funding. Commissioner Meyers replied that DHHS would issue a Request for Applications and contracts would be issued based on a percentage. Keith Howard stated that the proposed amount of \$1.8M is a minimum to support the work and that he supports Tym’s sentiment. Senator Watters asked the group about thoughts on other dollars available to support the work. Tym noted that since it is unclear, funding up to an amount is preferred. Commissioner Meyers stated that full expenditure would be supported. Senator Watters made an amendment to the motion to authorize full amounts and spend with original amounts and full amount if not available. Commissioner Meyers noted that all three years of funds could be utilized to pay for these two years of programming. He reminded the Commission that it is there job to determine the amount to be spend and DHHS will execute their wishes. Major General David Mikolaities stated that the numbers in the proposal are not clear and the programming lacked sustainability long term. He also noted that the costs assigned to the programming are based on no information.

Patrick noted that he was uncomfortable with the potential for overreach and responsibility if the Commission were to fund the full proposal. He recommended a significant investment with an opportunity to clarify other sources. Patrick made a motion to fully fund (\$375,000) the certification program and \$525,000 to support the recovery centers totaling \$900,000 per year for two years. Commissioner Edelbult seconded Patrick’s motion. Tym Rouke asked a clarifying question to Commissioner Meyers if he was aware of any other funding to support this type of work. Commissioner Meyers indicated there are some Medicaid dollars available for billable recovery services. He asked Katja Fox if she could provide any other details. She noted that there are SOR funds for RCOs but that is to cover new services rather than existing ones. She also stated that the Commission needs to determine what centers the funding will support. Patrick asked for a vote, motion fails with 7 for and 10 against. Senator Watters made a motion to fund the request at \$1.2M. Commissioner Edelbult seconded the motion. Senator Watters clarified the funding to support the certification program at \$375,000 per year for two year and the balance to centers supporting existing operations and newly opened determined based on need (\$825,000). Commissioner Quinn asked how long it would take to get the new centers up and

running. Patrick noted that they are already close to ready. Patrick called for a vote. Motion passes with 12 for and 5 against.

8. Task Force Updates

▪ Prevention

Tim Lena stated that the Prevention Task Force's proposal for funding was for a duration of one year, and asked if it were possible to consider now, extending that to two years based on the vote of support for the Recovery Task Force funding. Patrick responded by stating that he would like to clarify the process and establish protocol moving forward at the Task Force Chairs meeting.

▪ Treatment

Stephanie Savard stated that the Treatment Task Force is continuing to develop the literature review on involuntary commitment based on substance use disorder. Representatives from Massachusetts are coming to an upcoming meeting to discuss works in their state as well as the pros, cons, and cost. She stated they will have a more robust report to share for the October meeting.

▪ Opioid

Seddon Savage noted that the Opioid Task Force is seeking the approval to publicly release their Justice Impacted Report. She reminded the group that the report is included in their packet. Commissioner Hanks stated that there is a mistake on page 12, that insinuates something that is not true of the Corrections Department. Seddon apologized for this oversight and asked if Commissioner Hanks if she could provide adjusted language that would serve as a correction. Commissioner Hanks agreed. Patrick suggested the Commission approve the report contingent on the update by Commissioner Hanks. There was a motion by Chuck Lloyd to approve the report contingent on the update by Commissioner Hanks. The motion was seconded by Steve Ahnen. The motion was approved with all in favor.

▪ Joint Military

Major General David Mikolaities provided the update noting that the Task Force has completed its goals around military culture training and is looking to develop their next steps on upcoming goals.

▪ Healthcare

Dr. Savage reported that the Healthcare Task Force is continuing to look at cannabis and opioid related policies and that they are starting to look into implications around the increase of methamphetamine and vaping. Tym Rouke asked if the Commission could receive a briefing on methamphetamines, either Task Force led or by experts. Patrick agreed and stated it would be added to the October agenda.

▪ Perinatal Exposure

Dr. Becky Ewing reported that the Perinatal Exposure Task Force is expanding their work around Plans of Safe Care and they are preparing information on this work to provide directly to patients.

▪ Data

Steve Ahnen reported that the Data Task force has finalized its goals and priorities and that they've had good discussion on collaboration which has been helpful to the group.

9. Other Business- There was no other business.

10. Public Comment

Public Comment was made by Alex Casale stating that there are changing policies within some jails that might reflect items other than what is presented in the justice report.

*The next Governor's Commission meeting
August 23, 2019 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the
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